

ORAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT AND APPLICATION OF FLUORIDE VARNISH FOR CHILDREN UNDER AGE THREE

Medical Providers

Effective for dates of service beginning July 1, 2010, Mississippi Medicaid will reimburse medical providers for an oral health assessment and application of fluoride varnish. The following policy criteria will apply:

1. Medical providers will be reimbursed for an oral health assessment and application of fluoride varnish for Medicaid beneficiaries under age three (3). (Preventive and treatment services provided by a dentist are covered by Medicaid for children under age three (3). Beginning at age three (3), children should be referred to a dentist if the child is not currently under the care of a dentist.)
 - a. The oral health assessment must include a visual observation of the teeth, gums, and soft tissues of the mouth. The provider should note any abnormalities, such as plaque, signs of caries such as white or brown spots on the teeth, obvious dental decay or other defects, and tooth crowding. Documentation of the assessment must be included in the beneficiary's medical record.
 - b. Application of fluoride varnish should be done following the oral health assessment. Fluoride varnish application must be performed in accordance with accepted standards of care and fluoride varnish manufacturers' recommendations. Documentation of the procedure must be included in the beneficiary's medical record.
2. Medical providers eligible for reimbursement of these services are physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants only. Participation in the Mississippi Cool Kids (EPSDT) program is not required for reimbursement of these services.
3. All Mississippi Cool Kids (EPSDT) providers are encouraged to perform the oral health assessment and application of fluoride varnish at the same time as the child's regularly scheduled Mississippi Cool Kids (EPSDT) screening. These services will be reimbursed in addition to the other screening services. The dental procedure codes can be billed on the same claim with the other procedure codes for Mississippi Cool Kids (EPSDT) screening.
4. These services must be billed by the medical provider on a CMS-1500 or electronic equivalent claim using the following procedure codes:
 - a. D0145 – Oral evaluation for a patient under three years of age and counseling with primary caregiver; fee = \$33.04
 - b. D1206 – Topical fluoride varnish; therapeutic application for moderate to high caries risk patients; fee = \$22.42

5. These services will be covered up to two (2) times per fiscal year per child, at least five (5) months apart. Providers can check eligibility and service limits by using the Automated Voice Response System (AVRS) at 1-866-597-2675; Provider/Beneficiary Relations Call Center at 1-800-884-3222; or Envision web portal at <http://msmedicaid.acs-inc.com>.
6. Children with dental problems such as caries should be referred to a participating Mississippi Medicaid dentist for further evaluation and treatment. Participating dental providers can be located from the Provider Search feature on the DOM web site at www.medicaid.ms.gov.
7. Educational and informational materials related to oral health and fluoride varnish are available at the links listed below:
 - a. National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center (Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS))
<http://www.mchoralhealth.org/about/index.html>

Oral Health Assessment:
<http://www.youtube.com/profile?user=oralhealthresource#p/u/0/84FUMRs8sfQ>

Application of Fluoride Varnish:
<http://www.youtube.com/profile?user=oralhealthresource#p/u/1/zfdcjZ3ht9M>
 - b. American Academy of Pediatrics:
<http://www.aap.org/healthtopics/oralhealth.cfm>

Oral Health Trainings and Videos:
<http://www.aap.org/commpeps/dochs/oralhealth/links-training.cfm>

Online Oral Health Assessment Training with CME Credit:
<http://www.aap.org/oralhealth/cme/>

Fluoride Resources:
<http://www.aap.org/commpeps/dochs/oralhealth/fluoride.cfm>

Dental Providers

Effective for dates of service beginning July 1, 2010, an oral evaluation and counseling with the primary caregiver is covered for children under age three (3). This evaluation can be paid twice per fiscal year (July 1 – June 30) and must be at least five (5) months apart.

Medicaid already covers fluoride treatments, including fluoride varnish, for all beneficiaries under age twenty-one (21). Fluoride treatments may be paid twice per fiscal year (July 1-June 30) and must be at least five (5) months apart. Application of fluoride varnish is encouraged for children under age three.

These services must be billed by the dentist on a 2006 ADA or electronic equivalent claim using the following procedure codes:

- a. D0145 – Oral evaluation for a patient under three years of age and counseling with primary caregiver; fee = \$33.04
- b. D1206 – Topical fluoride varnish; therapeutic application for moderate to high caries risk patients; fee = \$22.42

Reimbursement of the medical provider for these codes will not interfere with reimbursement of the dentist for covered dental services, including a comprehensive oral examination.

Providers can check eligibility and service limits by using the Automated Voice Response System (AVRS) at 1-866-597-2675; Provider/Beneficiary Relations Call Center at 1-800-884-3222; or Envision web portal at <http://msmedicaid.acs-inc.com>.

Questions?

Please call your provider representative or you can call the DOM Bureau of Medical Services at 1-800-421-2408 and ask for Medical Services.